

News from the FPPC

California Fair Political Practices Commission
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FPPC Enforcement Decisions: August 14, 2008

The following are enforcement decisions approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission at its regular monthly meeting held in Sacramento on Thursday, August 14, 2008. Decisions are listed by category and include a brief summary of each case and the total amount of any administrative fine or fines in each case.

Additional information on each of the enforcement cases below can be found in the August agenda on the FPPC website at www.fppc.ca.gov. FPPC agendas are distributed and posted on the agency website 10 days prior to each monthly meeting.

The web version of the agenda includes links to the stipulations agreed to by the commission and by the individuals and organizations subject to the fines, or the default decisions proposed to the commission. Exhibits in support of the stipulations and proposed default decisions are also available on the website. If you are unable to access the FPPC website, or need further assistance, please call the FPPC communications office at (916) 322-7761.

Campaign Reporting Violations

California First Advocacy Fund, a state general purpose committee, failed to file a statement of organization, four pre-election statements, eight semi-annual statements, and failed to disclose making a late contribution, from 2003 through 2007. **\$36,000 fine.**

Phillip Cox, Committee to Elect Phil Cox, and Ralph Anderson. In 2004, Tulare County Supervisor, Phillip Cox, and his committee's treasurer, Ralph Anderson, failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement and a pre-election campaign statement. **\$6,000 fine.**

Committee for Proposition A, The Rural Lands Initiative, and Judith Sakrison, a ballot measure committee primarily formed to support the passage of Proposition A in San Diego County in the March 2, 2004, primary election, and the committee's treasurer, Judith Sakrison, failed to maintain campaign records, failed to disclose required contributor information, and failed to include proper disclosure statements in two television advertisements. **\$11,000 fine.**

Joseph Graham Davis, Jr., Californians Against the Costly Recall of the Governor et al., J. Ari Swiller, and Stephen J. Kaufman. Californians Against the Costly Recall of the Governor et al., was a primarily formed committee opposing the recall of then Governor Joseph Graham Davis, Jr., in the October 7, 2003, statewide special election. Governor Davis, his controlled committee, its treasurer, J. Ari Swiller, and its assistant treasurer, Stephen J. Kaufman, failed to properly disclose accrued expenses, failed to timely disclose a late contribution made, and failed to maintain required records of some notices to contributors of \$5,000 or more. **\$4,950 fine.**

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Statement of Economic Interests Reporting Violations

California law requires elected officials, certain board members and governmental employees, and consultants employed by governmental entities to complete and file Statements of Economic Interests (SEIs or Form 700s). SEIs serve a dual purpose: they make a filer aware of personal economic interests relative to a governmental decision, and they are an important disclosure document for the public and media.

The following individuals failed to file their Statement of Economic Interests forms on time or omitted required information:

Martha M. Escutia, while a member of the state Senate, failed to disclose sources of income of \$20,000 or more to her spouse's solely-owned business entity on her initially-filed 2002 and 2003 annual statements of economic interests. **\$2,000 fine.**

Geoffrey Butler, member of the Marin County Strawberry Design Review Board, failed to timely file his 2006 annual statement of economic interests. **\$800 fine.**

Mackey Deasy, Professional Qualifications Committee Member, Architects Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, failed to timely file his 2006 annual statement of economic interests. **\$200 fine.**

Tony Anello, Bodega Bay Fire Protection District Director, failed to timely file a 2004 annual statement of economic interests. **\$100 fine.**

Paige Bruyn, Vehicle Parking District Commissioner, City of Pomona, failed to timely file her 2005 annual statement of economic interests. **\$250 fine.**

Major Donor Violations

A major donor is a person or entity who makes contributions totaling \$10,000 or more in a calendar year and is required to file campaign reports detailing how much was contributed and to whom.

The following failed to file major donor reports as required by law:

Sara Johnson Redlich, of Hillsborough, failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in 2006, disclosing contributions totaling \$11,200. **\$400 fine.**

William Shopoff, The Shopoff Group and Affiliated Entities, of Irvine, failed to timely file semi-annual campaign statements, in 2004 and 2005, disclosing contributions totaling \$38,115. **\$800 fine.**

Pasha Stevedoring & Terminals, L.P., of Wilmington, failed to timely file semi-annual campaign statements, in 2007, disclosing contributions totaling \$35,600. **\$800 fine.**

Hartley Cylke Pacific Insurance Services, Inc., of San Diego, failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in 2006, disclosing contributions totaling \$10,000. **\$400 fine.**

Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers Association of Los Angeles, of Banning, failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in 2004, disclosing contributions totaling \$10,000. **\$400 fine.**

GNW-Evergreen Insurance Services LLC, of Encino, failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in 2005, disclosing contributions totaling \$10,000. **\$400 fine.**

Late Contribution Violations

When contributions of \$1,000 or more are made or received during the final days before an election—the time between the last campaign report required to be filed and the end of the election—late contribution reports must be filed within 24 hours of making or receiving the “late” contribution.

The following committees failed to file late contribution reports as required by the Political Reform Act:

William Shopoff, The Shopoff Group and Affiliated Entities, of Irvine, failed to timely disclose late contributions totaling \$6,000. **\$900 fine.**

Time Warner Inc. and Affiliated Entities, of New York, NY, failed to timely disclose late contributions totaling \$33,000. **\$4,950 fine.**

Committee to Elect Lynnel Pollock Supervisor failed to file three late contribution reports totaling \$11,500. **\$1,725 fine.**

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